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under the NOP (7 CFR part 205) and who is not a split operation shall be exempt from the payment of assessments.

(e) The Board may recommend to the Secretary that honey exported from the United States be exempted from the provisions of this subpart and include procedures for the refund of assessments on such honey and such safeguards as may be necessary to prevent improper use of this exemption.

[51 FR 26148, July 21, 1986; 51 FR 29210, Aug. 15, 1986, as amended at 56 FR 37457, Aug. 7, 1991; 66 FR 21833, May 1, 2001; 70 FR 2760, Jan. 14, 2005]

§ 1240.43 Operating reserve.

The Board may establish an operating monetary reserve and may carry over to subsequent fiscal periods excess funds in any reserve so established: *Provided*, That the funds in the reserve shall not exceed one fiscal period's budget. Subject to approval by the Secretary, such reserve funds may be used to defray any expenses authorized under this part.

 $[51\ \mathrm{FR}\ 26148,\ \mathrm{July}\ 21,\ 1986;\ 51\ \mathrm{FR}\ 29210,\ \mathrm{Aug}.$ $15,\ 1986.\ \mathrm{Redesignated}\ \mathrm{at}\ 66\ \mathrm{FR}\ 21829,\ \mathrm{May}\ 1,$ 2001]

§ 1240.44 Voluntary quality assurance program.

- (a) The Board is authorized to develop and carry out a voluntary quality assurance program concerning purity standards for honey and honey products. The Secretary shall have the authority to approve or disapprove such program.
- (b) The program may include the following components:
- (1) The establishment of an official Board seal of approval to be displayed on honey and honey products which meet such standards of purity as are established under the program;
- (2) Actions to encourage producers, handlers, and importers to participate in the program:
- (3) Actions to encourage consumers to purchase honey and honey products bearing the official seal of approval; and
- (4) Periodic inspections by the Secretary, or other parties approved by the Secretary, of honey and honey products of persons who participate in the program.

(c) To be eligible to display the official seal of approval under paragraph (b)(1) of this section on a honey or honey product, a producer, handler, or importer shall participate in the voluntary program described in paragraph (a) of this section.

[66 FR 21833, May 1, 2001]

REPORTS, BOOKS, AND RECORDS

§ 1240.50 Reports.

Each handler, importer, producer, or producer-packer subject to this part shall be required to report to the employees of the Board, at such time and in such manner as it may prescribe, such information as may be necessary for the Board to perform its duties. Such reports shall include, but shall not be limited to the following:

- (a) For producers or producer-packers: the quantity of honey produced and the total number of bee colonies maintained.
- (b) For handlers and producer-packers: the total quantity of honey acquired during the reporting period; the total quantity of honey and honey products handled during such period; the amount of honey acquired from each producer, giving the name and address of each producer; the assessments collected during the reporting period; the quantity of honey processed for sale from a producer-packer's own production; and a record of each transaction for honey on which assessments had already been paid, including a statement from the seller that the assessment had been paid.
- (c) For importers: the total quantity of honey and honey products imported during the reporting period and a record of each importation of honey or honey products during such period, giving the quantity, date, country of origin, and port of entry.
- (d) For persons who have an exemption from assessments under §1240.42, such information as deemed necessary by the Board, and approved by the Secretary, concerning the exemption including disposition of exempted honey.

[66 FR 21834, May 1, 2001, as amended at 70 FR 2760, Jan. 14, 2005]